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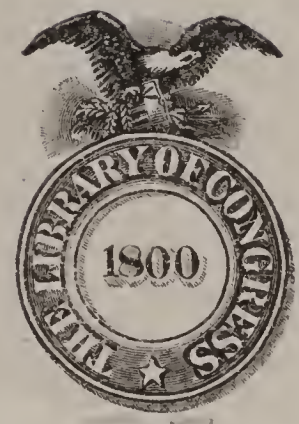
POLLY PRUE AND PENNY

BY LOIS MALOY



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by Lois Maloy

Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Company

Boston *1937* *New York*

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Printed in the United States of America.

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POLLY, PRUE AND PENNY

Polly had long yellow curls and freckles on her nose.

Penny had long yellow curly ears and freckles on her nose.

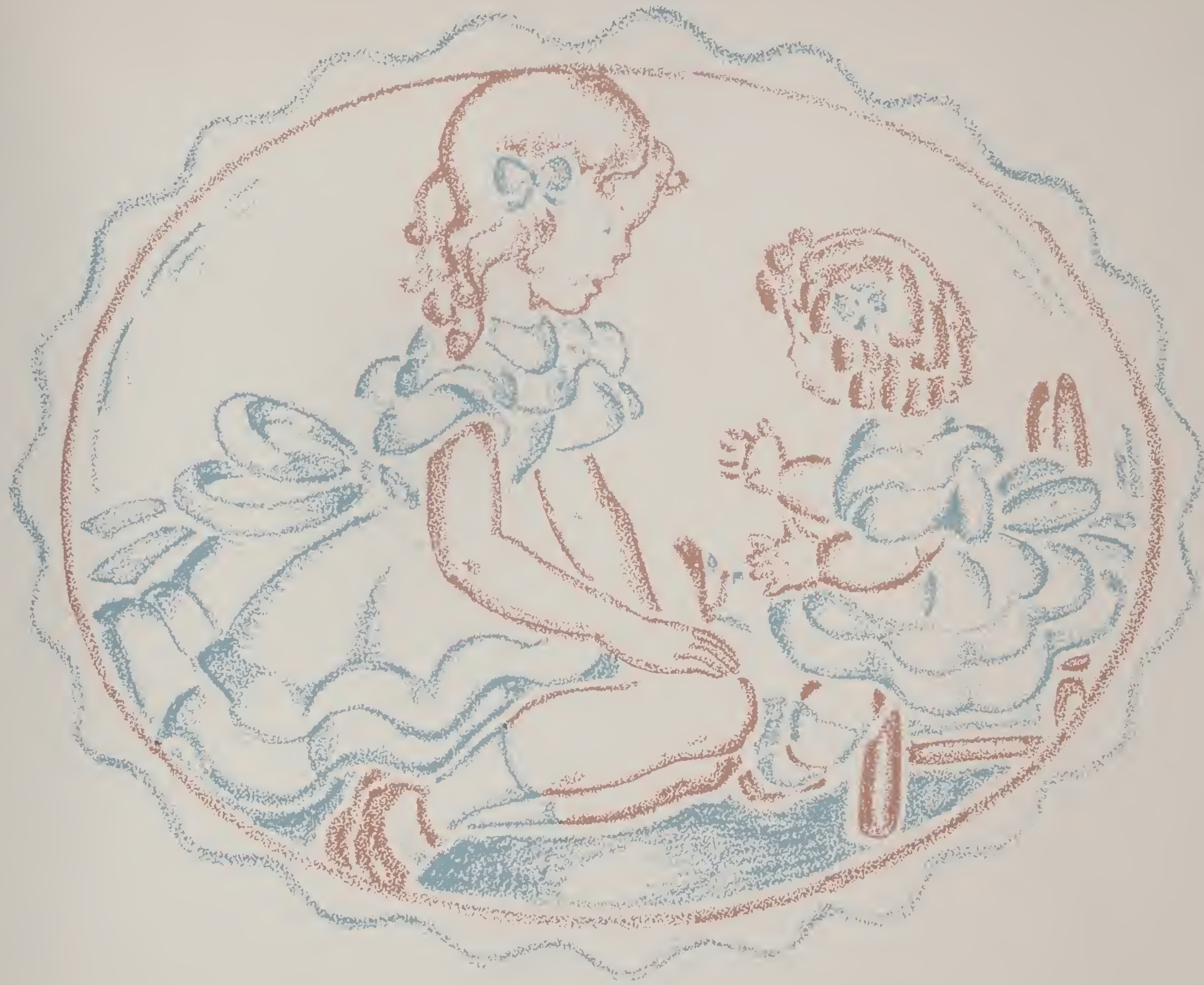
Prue had long yellow curls but not one single freckle.

Polly had a ruffled dress with a blue ribbon. So did Prue. But Penny had no dress at all.

"Poor Penny!" said Polly.

"Please, Prue, may Penny wear your ruffled dress with the blue ribbon today?" said Polly.

Prue did not say anything. She did not want to let Penny wear her dress.



Penny did not say anything either. But she did not want to wear it.

Polly said, "Prue's dress will just fit you, Penny."

So she put Prue's ruffled dress on Penny, and tied the blue ribbon around her middle. It really did fit Penny quite well. But Penny was very sad.

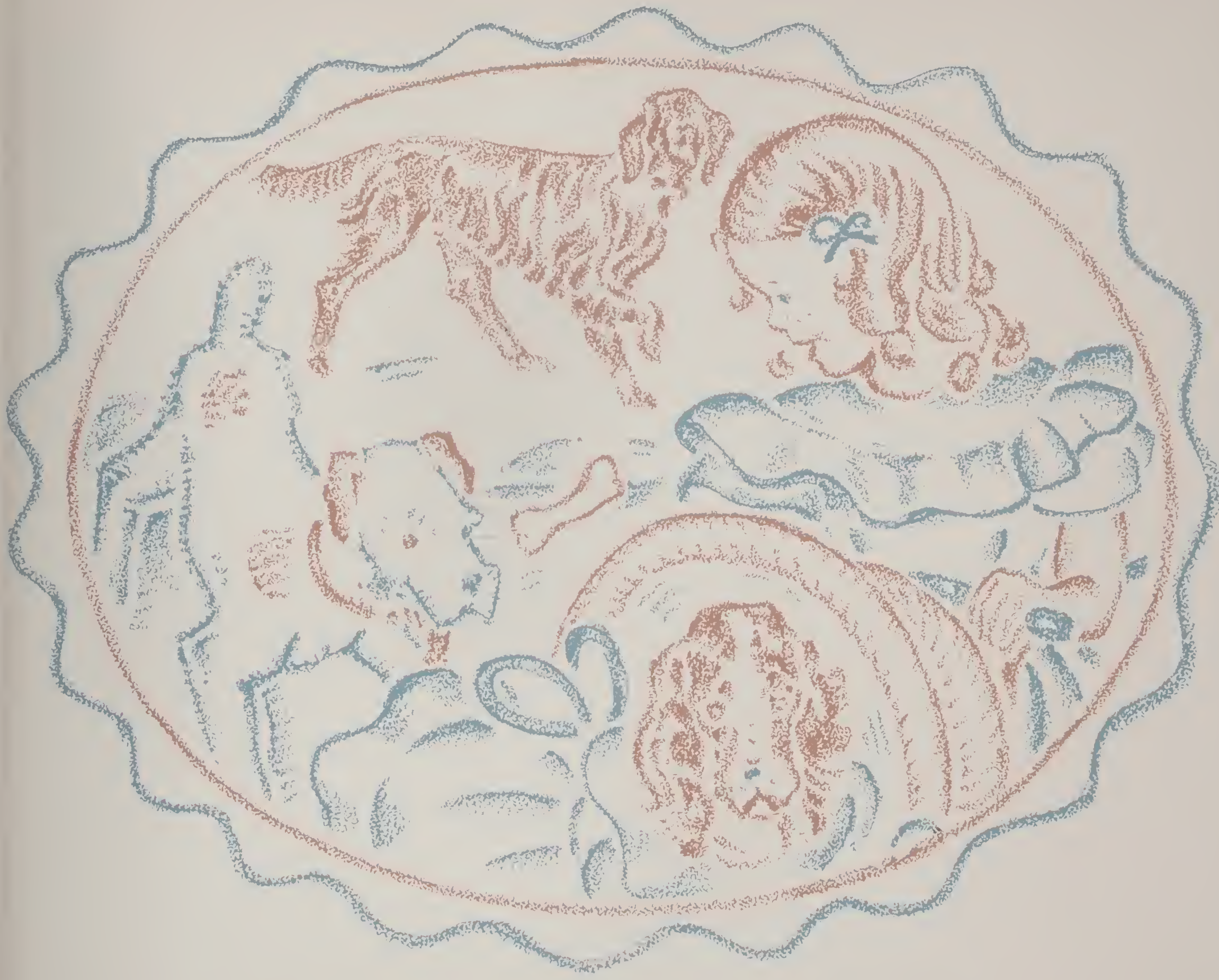
"Now you may ride in Prue's carriage, Penny," said Polly.

Polly pushed the carriage down the street. Soon they came to the corner.

Ginger was there chewing a big bone. Penny did not want Ginger to see her in Prue's dress and Prue's carriage. She tried to hide her head.

But Ginger saw Penny.

"Bow wow! Come here quick, Piper! Will you look at Penny dressed in doll's clothes? Bow wow! Bow wow!"

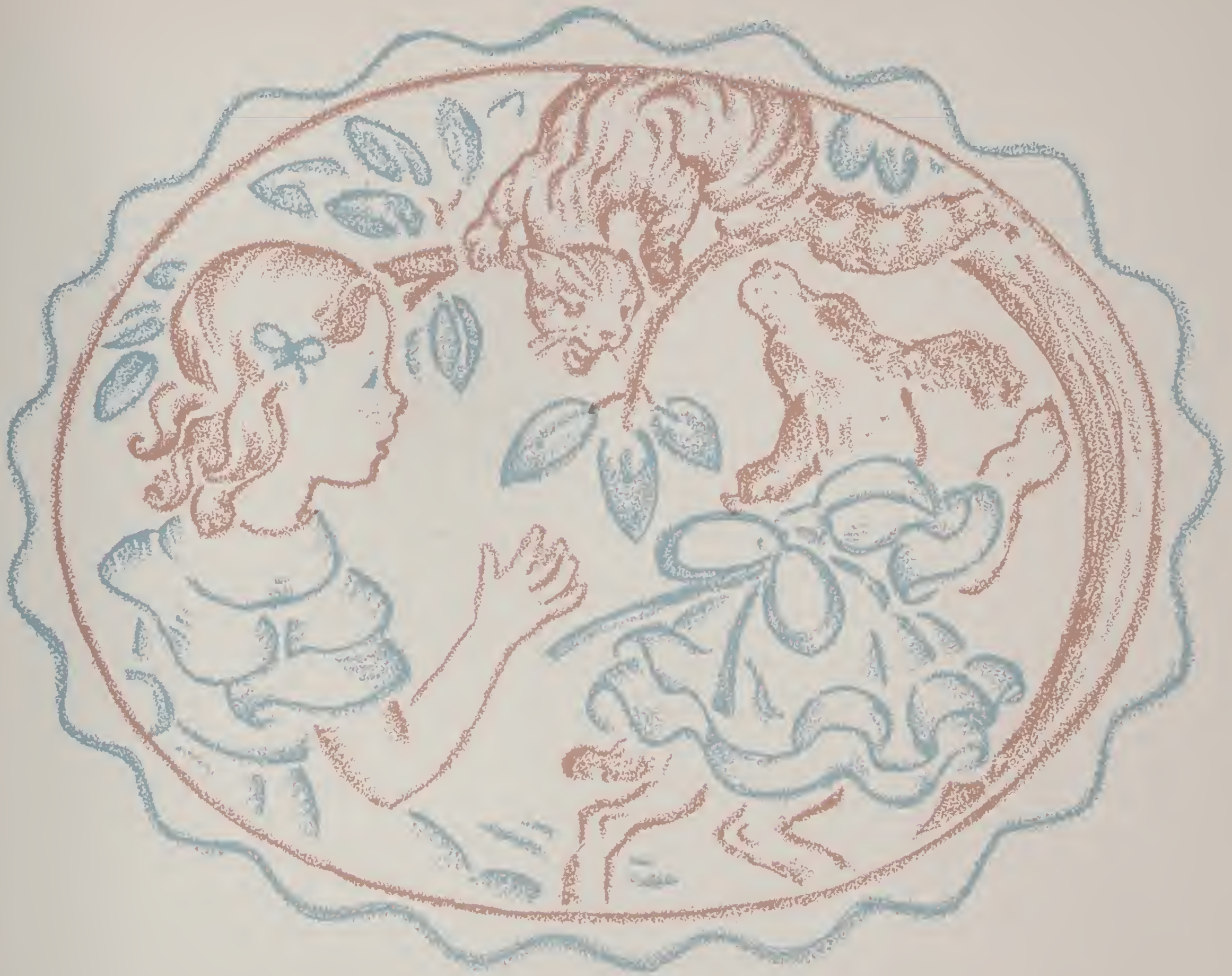


Piper looked at Penny. He did not say anything, but walked back and sat down in the tulip bed. He shook his head.

Penny was so ashamed. But Polly was proud of Penny in Prue's dress. She thought Penny looked very nice indeed. They went along the street quite fast.

Suddenly cold chills went up and down Penny's back. There in the crotch of a tree was Tiger! Tiger had yellow stripes and yellow eyes. He had sharp curved claws. Penny could remember how they had felt in her back one day!

Tiger arched his back. Penny made one leap out of Prue's carriage. She tried to reach the crotch of the tree.



"Bow wow! Bow wow! I will catch you this time, Tiger!"

But Tiger ran up the tree and looked down at Penny with great yellow eyes. Penny barked and barked. She did not hear Polly scolding her. She was so excited! She forgot all about Prue's ruffled dress with the blue ribbon.

She ran back for Ginger and Piper.

"Bow wow! Come help me catch Tiger!"

Ginger said, "Bow wow! I will help you, Penny!"

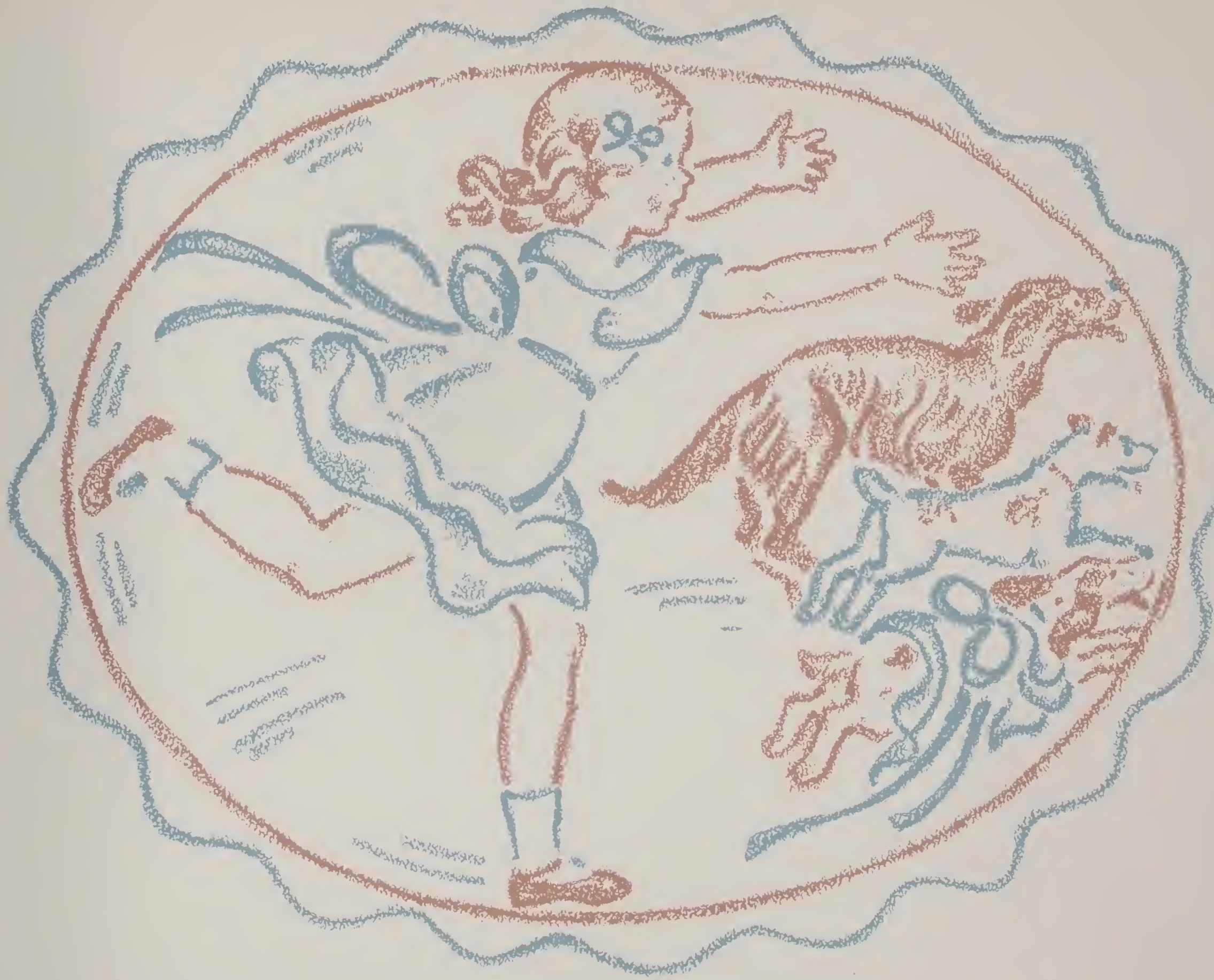
Piper said, "What's the use? He's away up in the tree. We can't catch him. Let's go to the pond and chase ducks!"

"Oh, yes, let's chase ducks!" said Ginger.

Penny said, "Bow wow!"

Ginger, Piper, and Penny ran down the street.

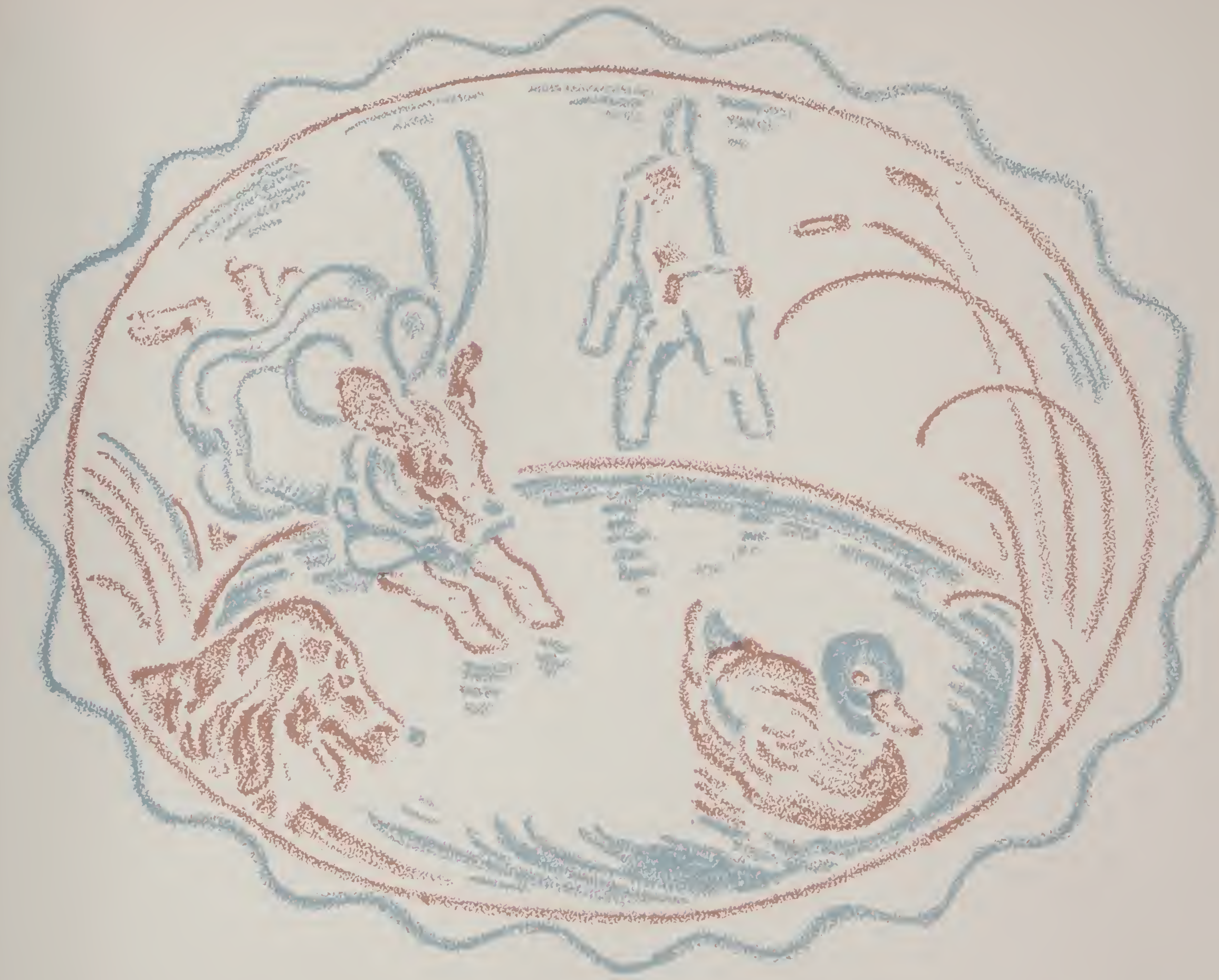
Polly ran after them, but she could not catch them.
"Come back, Penny!" she called.
Penny did not hear Polly.



There was only one fat duck swimming around in the pond. Ginger, Piper, and Penny barked and barked. Penny jumped into the water.

"I can swim as fast as you can, Mr. Duck!" she barked. "I will catch you!"

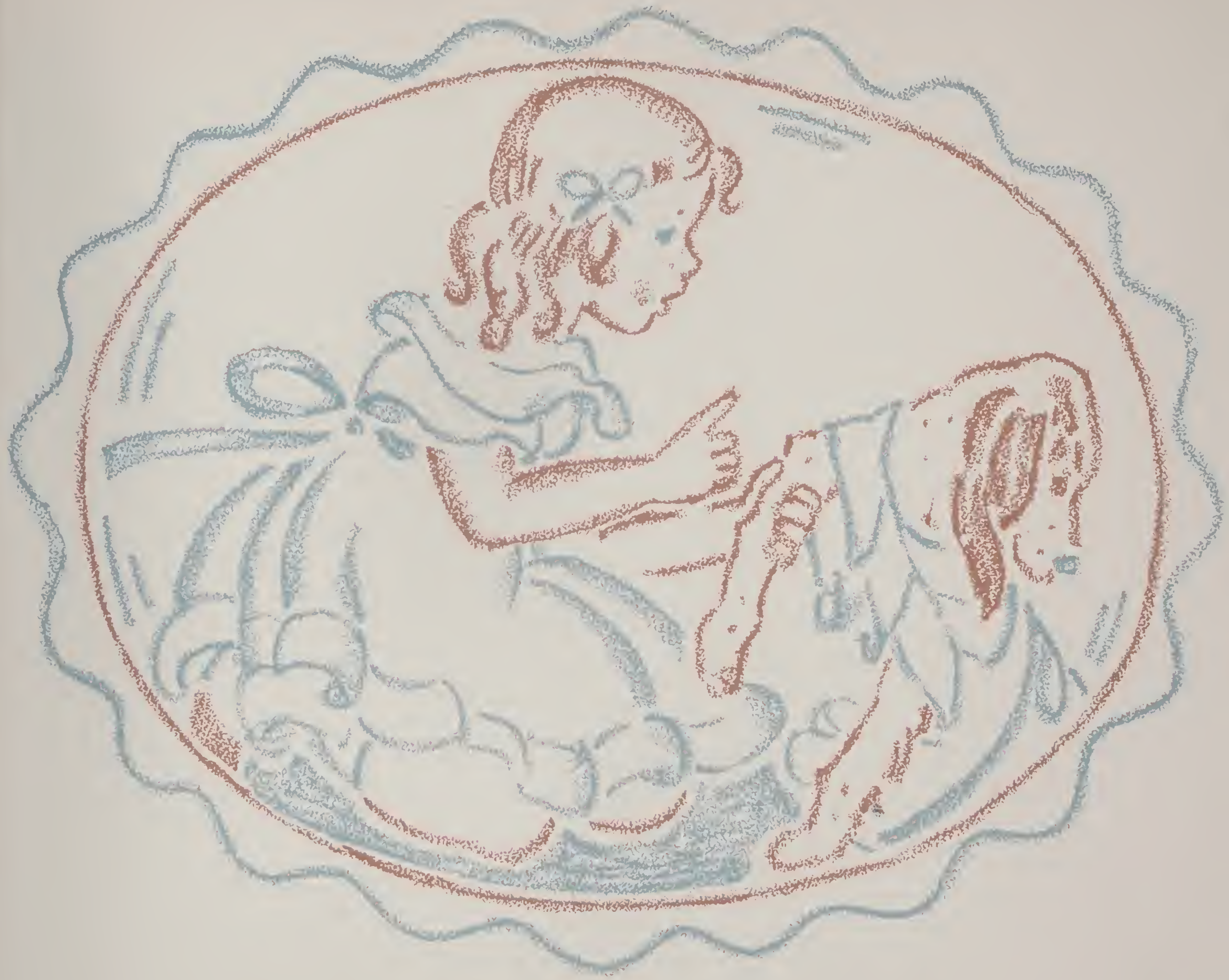
But Mr. Duck flew away.



Polly reached the edge of the pond.
"Come here, you naughty dog!" she called.
Penny swam back to the shore. She was very wet.

"Look at Prue's pretty dress, Penny!" said Polly. "Shame on you!"

Penny looked at the dress. She had forgotten all about it.



They walked home together. Penny's long ears were dripping and it was hard to walk in Prue's wet dress.

Prue was sitting up straight in a stiff chair.

Polly said, "I am very sorry, Prue. Penny was a naughty dog and went into the pond in your dress! But I will fix it up for you."

So Polly washed and ironed Prue's dress and made it pretty and fresh again.

Penny shook her hair and ran around until she was fluffy and white.

Polly said, "You both look very nice now. I think I will not make Penny wear Prue's dress again."

Polly took Prue for a ride in her own carriage.
Penny walked along beside wagging her tail.
They were all very happy.

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